NINDS Neuroscience Development for Advancing the Careers of a Diverse Research Workforce (R25 Programs)

Broadening the Representation of Academic Investigators in NeuroSciences (BRAINS) is a national program to accelerate and improve the career advancement of neuroscience postdoctoral researchers and assistant professors from underrepresented groups. The program offers two participant pathways: BRAINS Fellows and BRAINS Affiliates. Participants will gain a stronger sense of career self-efficacy and community through professional development events, peer networks, and mentoring relationships over a two-year period.

Program Headquarters: University of Washington
Website: depts.washington.edu/brains
Contact: brains@uw.edu

The Congruent Mentorship to Reach Academic Diversity in Neuroscience Research (COMRADE) is a Summer Institute that convenes at NYU Langone Health to provide diverse postdocs with mentored learning opportunities to develop successful independent academic careers. It begins with a two-week didactic training, followed by one-week summer training sessions in grant writing, focused on NIH proposal completion and submission. The two summer institutes are interspersed by a mid-year meeting at the Society for Neuroscience Conference and monthly webinars to discuss emerging issues during proposal development. During the COMRADE academic year, mentees receive mentorship by assigned mentors and individualized academic coaching by the Program Directors.

Program Headquarters: New York University
Website: med.nyu.edu/pophealth/divisions/chbc/training/congruent-mentorship-reach-academic-diversity-neuroscience-research
Contact: Debbie Chung, 646-501-2601

The Health Disparities in Neuroscience-related Disorders (HDND) MS Program at Wake Forest University provides a solid foundation in Neuroscience, Epidemiology and Biostatistics training and hands-on, practical research projects for students interested in careers in health disparities research.

Program Headquarters: Wake Forest University
Website: neurohealthdisparity.ms.graduate.wfu.edu
Contact: Carol Milligan, PhD and Alain Bertoni, MD

The Mentoring Institute for Neuroscience Diversity Scholars (MINDS) Early Career Institute in Neuroscience promotes the advancement of junior faculty members in the neurosciences at research universities. Each participant is invited to complete a one-year educational program consisting of workshops, mentored attendance at professional scientific meetings, assistance in the expansion of their network, and a listserv to promote communication among the participants.

Program Headquarters: University of Pittsburgh / University of Florida
Website: eci.pitt.edu
Contact: Tracy Baust, eci@pitt.edu

The Neuroscience Scholars Program (NSP) is an extensive two-year training program open to underrepresented and diverse neuroscience graduate students and postdoctoral fellows. NSP offers live events, webinars, a library of educational resources, and an online community for seeking career connections and guidance. All eligible applicants will be invited to become NSP Associates. Up to fifteen candidates will be selected as NSP Fellows and gain additional benefits, including access to a mentoring team, complimentary registration and travel to the Society for Neuroscience annual meeting, and an annual award of $1,500 to support allowed professional development activities.

Program Headquarters: Society for Neuroscience
Website: www.sfn.org/nsp
Contact: nsp@sfn.org

The UAB Neuroscience Roadmap Scholars Program provides a focused and individualized path for underrepresented graduate students with interest in a graduate career in neuroscience at University of Alabama Birmingham. The program aims to provide an in-depth guidance and support system focused on assisting students throughout their graduate career. It also hosts the Annual National Enhancement of Under Represented Academic Leaders (NEURAL) Conference designed to provide a scientific platform for underrepresented trainees in the neurosciences to meet. Travel awards to the NEURAL Conference are available to qualifying students.

Program Headquarters: University of Alabama at Birmingham
Website: www.uab.edu/medicine/rms
Contact: Jamie White, jcarleen@uab.edu

The Training in Research for Academic Neurologists to Sustain Careers and Enhance the Numbers of Diverse Scholars (TRANSCENDS) program is designed to train promising early-career neurologists to conduct high-quality neurologic research and achieve a successful academic career. Participants will receive: a master of science degree in clinical research or a certificate in clinical research; in-depth guidance and support system focused on assisting students in the development of their current research portfolio; and assistance with preparation, and submission of K-type grant application.

Program Headquarters: Medical University of South Carolina
Website: www.aan.com/research-and-awards/transcends-scholar-program-application
Contact: transcends.aan@gmail.com

Please visit the NINDS Resource page for NIH’s Diversity definition and other funding opportunities: https://www.ninds.nih.gov/About-NINDS/Workforce-Diversity/Diversity-Resources

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